

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

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SINGAPORE FOR USRTC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, TH

SUBJ: COUNTRY COMMERCIAL ACTION GROUP MEETING, AUGUST 11, 1976

REF : (A) STATE 191843, (B) BANGKOK 15631, (C) STATE 114898

1. THE COUNTRY COMMERCIAL ACTION GROUP (CCAG) MET ON AUGUST 11, 1976. MR. JOHN BURKE, THE NEWLY ARRIVED DCM, CHAIRED THE MEETING WHICH REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMAT, ECON, POL, DAO, JUSMAG, SA, CONS, USIS, USOM AND AG ATTENDED, AS WELL AS THE ADVANCE OFFICER OF THE FORTHCOMING FISHERIES EQUIPMENT TRADE MISSION, MS. JANET THOMAS.

2. FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE NEW CHAIRMAN, AND FOR THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE CCAG, THE MEETING BEGAN WITH A BRIEF HISTORICAL REVIEW BY THE COMMERCIAL ATTACHE OF THAILAND'S COUNTRY COMMERCIAL PROGRAM, FOLLOWED BY A REPORT ON THE FY 76 AND PROPOSED FY 77 AND 78 PROGRAMS. THIS INCLUDED AN EVALUATION OF THE BICENTENNIAL VISIT USA PROMOTION WHICH BEGAN IN APRIL/MAY, AND A PRESENTATION ON THE TWO UPCOMING TRADE MISSIONS IN THIS QUARTER. ALSO DISCUSSED WAS AN AGRI-BUSINESS PRODUCT EXHIBITION PROPOSED FOR FY 78, FOR WHICH CONSIDERABLE PREPARATION WORK WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE IN FY 77 AS ANTICIPATED IN THE DRAFT FY 77 CCP.

3. IT WAS NOTED THAT "MAJOR PROJECTS", THE NEXT SUBJECT DISCUSSED, IS DEMANDING INCREASING TIME AND EFFORT BY THE COMMERCIAL

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SECTION. THE ANTICIPATED ANNOUNCEMENT PRIOR TO OCTOBER FIRST OF

THE RTG'S MULTIBILLION DOLLAR PROJECTS EXPECTED TO BE PROPOSED FOR THE FOURTH FIVE-YEAR PLAN WILL REQUIRE EVEN CLOSER ATTENTION AND INCREASED REPORTING.

4. COMAT EXPRESSED PARTICULAR APPRECIATION TO USOM FOR ASSISTANCE ON MAJOR PROJECTS, TO USIS ON PUBLICITY (NEWSPAPER STORIES, PHOTOGRAPHY COVERAGE, BORCHURE PRINTING, ETC.) AND TO OTHER MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM, SUCH AS JUSMAG, FOR ADDITIONAL ASSISTANCE.

5. LOCAL U.S. MISSION/AMCHAM RELATIONS WERE DISCUSSED, AS WERE REGIONAL POSTS' COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE CCP CONCEPT RECENTLY SUBMITTED (REFTEL B) IN RESPONSE TO REFTTEL (C). THE REGIONAL APPLICABILITY TO BANGKOK OF THE SINGAPORE TRADE CENTER WAS ALSO CONSIDERED. FINALLY, THE NEXT REGIONAL ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL OFFICERS CONFERENCE, SCHEDULED FOR NEXT FEBRUARY, WAS NOTED.

6. THE NEXT CCAG MEETING IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF THE NEXT FISCAL YEAR.
WHITEHOUSE

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